LIGHTS OUT.

The sentry challenged at the open gate
Who passed him by, because the hour was late;
"Hall: Who goes there?" "A friend." "All's

"A friend, old chap?"—a friend's farewell,
And I had passed the gate.
And then the long, last notes were shed,
The echoing call's last notes were dead;
And sounded sadly, as I stood without.
Those last sad notes of all: Lights Cut!
Lights Cut!
Lights Cut!

Farewell, companions! We have side by side Watched history's lengthened shadows past up

And worn the scarlet, laughed at, paid, And buried comrates lowly haid, And let the long years gilde; And toil and hardship have we known, And toil and hardship have we known, And followed where the flag had gone. But all the echoes answering round a Have bidden you to sleep; Lights Ou

And never more for me shall red fire flash And never more for me small red fire mass.

From bright revolvers—On, the crumbling ash

Of life is hope a traition. Fall

The witherest friends high, and they all

Are elecpang! Fals neary.

The fabrics of our lives decay.

The roles of night about me lay.

And the air whitenees or a layout without.

And the air whispered, as I stood without, Those last sad notes of all! Lights Out!

### He Begged Pardon, Publicly.

One day, Beckmann, the comic actor, who died in 1860, was induced to take off a well known newspaper editor, Frankel by name, in one of the characters he was representing in Berlin. He performed his task so eleverly, that at the close the audience broke out into loud calls for Frankei. The journalist brought an action, and Beckmann was copdemned to go to the house of the insuited party and there beg his pardon in the presence of witnesses. At the hour appointed Frankel mid half an hour had passed in weary sus-pense when at last the door opened, and Becktanna put his head in and asked: "Does Mr. Meir live here?" "Oh, no." answered Frankel.
"he lives next door." "Ah, then I beg your said the actor, and hustily mbled witnesses. - The Argonaut.

Out-Booming American Booms. Americans are too often credited with originating booms, but enterprises of that class have always existed. Even take Germany, that home of conservatesm, you will all sorts of bombastic schemes. Strassbourg, the famous European railway builder, swindie i his countrymen out of \$50.000,000 in lines of railway that he projected to gridiron Roumania and Anstro-Hungary, connecting with the German-Terkish and Russian cellent pioneer up to a certain point; no one system. American during was surpassed, and construction gangs were pitched into a maked wilderness without population, savage or civilized, and no prospect of ever raising moneh food to system the smallest hamlet, Strassbourg built for the sake of building, as every mile represented a greater issue of cleanliness and taste. The house of the aver-stock and bonds. How far he would have gone can never be estimated. His methods were exposed in the reichstag, creditors clamaged for money, bonds couldn't be given away, and the crash came. The respective governments then took the lines, which have been operated at a loss over since.—Globe-

Protection for the Witness. Browbeating Lawyer (in Montana)-An-

swer my question, sir. Witness to court.—Your honor, I have answered that same question half a dozen times, but the answer don't suit him because No" when he wants me to say "Yes. Am I obliged to be under oath to please him!

Judge—Certainly not, sir. The courts are made by the people for the people, and you, as one of the people, have a right to protec-

Witness-Then, your honor, I demand pro-Judge-I've only got two guns about me, but the tipstaff there will lend you one; he's

### Trials of a Fine Penman.

"Yes, that is certainly very fine penman-A reporter was examining a handsomely written letter which a young man was exhibiting as a specimen of his skill You cought to be able to get a good situation as a bookkeeper? "So I thought when I first came to this city; but I haven't succeeded yet.

"There is a good many reasons. In the

first place, I am a graduate of a business col-That is regarded as a bar by a large number of business men. In the next place, I am a stranger in New York, and lastly, I write too well." "Write too well?" "Yes. I have answered every advertise-

ment calling for a bookkeeper that has appeared in the daily papers for a month past, and have only heard in reply to three. Each of the men who wrote to me said that my penmanship was too fine. I find that business men don't like flourishes on their basks. They don't want copperplate pennanship. One man said to me that he wanted a bookkesper whose chirography showed more individual,
ity—more chiracter than name. And so I
lost the situation. It is a so I lost the situation. It is my experience that a plain, flowing, rapid hand is the very best that an applicant for clerical work can

"What do you propose do do!" "I have not decided. I may secure work in that country have revolted against as a card writer or teacher of penmanship old fashiomed theory that a man old fashiomed theory that a man carry a smooth face into the pulpit. adopt a plain but graceful style of writing, gressive clorgyman of Great Britain, and I shall conceal my business college edudisgrace. I don't know whether my experi-New York Mail and Express.

Cattle in the Argentine Republic. Until within a few years the chief tache worn by a young preacher has been ource of wealth was cattle and sheep. In known to make a good deal of trouble source of wealth was cattle and sheep. In 1885 there were 41,000,000 shoop in the United States, 72,000,000 in Australia and United States, 72,000,000 in Australia and 100,000,000 in the Argentine republic. We who believe that a homely minister is, in the have two-thirds of a sheep to every in-habitant. In the Argentine republic there—whose face is eminently ornamental.—New sheep to every man, woman and child. We have 40,000,000 of horned cattle to a popula.

Convention tion of 60,000,000; the Argentine republic and Uruguay have 38,000,000 cattile to a population of 4,500,000. In Uruguay, with a population of 500,000 souls, there are 8,000,000 enttle, 20,000,000 sheep, 2,000,000 horses, or sixty bend of stock for each man, woman and child.

Fifteen million dollars has been invested in wire fences in Uruguay alone, and more than twice as much in the Argentine Republic. In There is no chance for companionship beeither of the countries a cow can be bought | tween them; it cannot breathe in so artificial for \$5, a steer fattened for the market for \$10 an atmosphere. Men after their language to or \$12, a pair of oxen for \$25, a sheep for 50 or 50 cents, an ordinary working horse for \$8 or \$10, and a roadster for \$35, a mule for \$15. and a mare for whatever her hide will bring Mares are never broken to saddle or harness, but are allowed to run wild in the pastures from the time they are found till they coase to be of value for breeding, when they are observances. If the foundation of companious to the salederos, or slaughter houses, and killed for their hides. A man who would use a mare under the saddle or before a wagon would be considered of unsound mind. There is a superstition against it.— William Eleroy Curtis in Harper's Magazine. Henri Browne in Cosmopolitan.

Happening into a bird store one day re-cently a representative of the sayings had a that with the proprietor on the subject of

Of canaries he said: "There never was a greater demand for these beautiful songsters than there has been for the past three months The demand is greater every winter, but this

birds generally.

winter beats them all." "What's the cause of this!" he asked. "Diphtheria," he replied.

"Is there an epidemic among them?" "No, not exactly. You see birds in a house will take almost any infectious disease which may happen to afflict the members of the household and they die off very quickly once they are taken sick. They will take scarlet lever, measles, almost anything, like a human heing. They cannot be cured, for by the time their sickness is discovered they are too far gone for aid. Hundreds of canaries as well as other household birds have died because of the prevalence of diphtheria during the winter. I dare say there will be many pathetic stories told shortly of the simultaneous death of children and their favorite birds, and much talk of broken bird hearts. When it is understood that the child and the bird have had the same disease, the pathos will vanish. People who have had valuable songsters and know their nature always remove them from a sick room to a distant part of the house, but as a general thing the owners of somesters understand very little about them other than that they can sing."-St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A Plea for the Peddler. That peddlers are frequently a bore every will admit; but even that lamentable fact does not excuse the brutality with which somé persons treat them. Here and there on the doors of business houses this very unpleasant sign is posted: "No beggars or ped-dlers allowed here." The people who hoist this banner have doubtless been sorely beset by importunate sellers of trifles, and have waxed wroth, and in despair put up the placard.

Nevertheless, they should not dump the beggar and the peddler together in that sat in the circle of his family, together with offensive manner. Both may be considered a number of relatives and friends whom he scourges at times; but the peddler is deservhad convened for the occasion, waiting the ing of respectful treatment because he is try-arrivel of the delinquent. He tarried long, is avowedly preying upon society. It is not necessary to let the peddler jump up and down on you like a coster; but don't kick him down stairs unless he deserves it, and don't hart his self respect even before he enters your door by placarding him as on the drew, having thus acquitted himself of the same plane as the beggar. Even a peddler imposed penance to the great annoyance of may have his feelings; and, as the "soft animposed penance to the great annoyance of may have his feelings; and, as the "soft an-Frankel and the intense annusment of the swer turneth away wrath," it can also turn away a poldler or a sewing machine agent. Try it, ye of little faith and many perplexities.-New York Press "Every Day Talk."

The Canadian Farmer. A stranger visiting a village even a century old is struck by the absence of the commones means for improving a civilization-machinery on the farm, privacy and comforts in the home, libraries, lectures, readings, etc. surpasses him in enduring hardships, labor, want; he lives and increases where others will not remain. But when he has cleared a few acres and won half of a living he feels satisfied, and generally fails to carry his civilization to the higher plane of comfort, roughest appointments, and it is generally crowded with two or three families.-C. H.

Comfortably Fixed. Brown-Have you been able to get anything

to do yet, Jones: -Yes; I got a nice place last week. Brown-Good. I'm glad to hear it! I'm doing well myself and I like to see my friends

do well buit inside work! Jones-No, outside, I'm collecting for Draper & Tailor; and, by the way, old man, I've got a little bill against you that's been running a long time.—The Epoch.

A Dog That Became Famous, Col. Emerson, of Auburn, Me., has been giving an account of a dog that became fa-mous during the war. He belonged to a edge that can give instruction or command Portsmouth man who enlisted at the begin-ning of the war and took the dog with him.

Both returned sately at the end of three months; but as the Tenth Maine passed through Portsmouth on its way to the front, some of the boys stole the dog and took him with them. His owner sent telegrams to been bought, "the lower portion of the Swiss Boston, New York and Baltimore demanding his release, but the boys laughed and kept the dog, who served two years with them, and then went back to Maine. Then the owner tried to get him, but two of the Tenth boys hid him and carried him to Auburn, where he re-enlisted with the Twenty-ninth Maine and again went to the front, and was killed at Sabine Cross Roads. He loved a battle and became terribly excited in action, barking and gnawing at the earth where the ballets struck.—New York Sun.

No Regard for the Propriettes. First Gushing Female Philanthropist (with bouquet)—I have been in every greenhouse in the city, and these are all the choice flow-ers I could find. Isn't it too bad the poor, dear man murdered his wife at this time of

Second Gushing Female Philanthropist (with tray of delicacies)—If it had been even a month later I could have found ever the girls in the public schools.—Julian Magnus in The Eroch. much nicer fruits and earlier vegetables than

Crusade Against the Mustache. A lively crusade against the mustache as an ornament for the clergyman is now in progress in England. Many young ministers in that country have revolted against the old fashioned theory that a man must in that direction I shall try and unlearn all culture of the mustache has become in fact, the fancy penmanship I acquired. I shall dangerously popular among the more proculture of the mustache bas become, in fact, the conservative members of the Established cation from a merchant as though it were a Church are shocked and dismayed therest. To those who are not acquainted with the ence is that of most applicants for clerical importance attached in England to the work in this city, but I am suisded that I am exterior details pertaining to a clergyman of right, and shall govern myself accordingly." the recognized church, it might seem that a man with a mustache would make as good a minister as one who shaved his upper lip. But the fact is that a really impressive mus

among the fair maidens of his congregation,

Conventionality vs. Companionship. Companionship is, above all, voluntary, unrestrained, obeying the law of temperament, and the fervor of individuality. in their relations to women, are conventional, artful, anxious to create an impression: women, in dealing with men, sacrifice everything in their effort to be agreeable; bide home.-New York Mail and Express. nature and pervert truth with this intent.

what she says to men. When a woman sud-

dealy appears in a company of men, they

change their speech completely, and conceal

superstructure could not be reared; the op-

portunity would be lacking, and the com-

mencement would remain as a sign of failure,

as a warning to proceed no further. Junius

The only accident on the ball fields of the country in 1887 which resulted in death oc-curred in a match game at Pooleville, N. Y., sentiments or actions from what they say to when Otto Bronson was struck on the temple women than you do of the real woman from by a ball and instantly killed.

A good story is told of a Cardingshire to cal preacher. He was declaiming one of Mr. Spurgeon's sermons-unknown, of course, to his hearers—in a bethel of miniature dimen-sions, which did not even possess a gallery. Toward the close he electrified the little con gregation with the exclamation, "And now I turn to you, the hundreds in the gallery."-

DOMESTIC TRAINING.

COMPARATIVE MERITS OF AMERICAN AND ENGLISH GIRLS.

Good Effect of the Social Intercours That Prevails Between the People of This Country and England-English Girls' Home Life.

The comparative merits of American and English girls have been of late frequently discussed. Advocates of each nationality have made many good points, and victory cannot honestly be said to have been won by either. There can be little doubt that the largely increased and close social intercourse that now prevails between the peoples of this country and of England has had the effect of obliterating many of the strongly marked differences of their daughters.

English girls have caught something of the brightness, the case and the self reliance which have made certain American lades who have married Englishmen take rank as favorites-almost, indeed, as leaders in London society. And even those Englishwomen who have not succeeded in imitating, or have not sought to imitate, will be generally found willing to admit the charm of the imported style. American girls, on the other hand, have not been slow to borrow ideas from their English cousins. We have only to look et our girls' tailor made gowns, their mon sense shoes, their round hats and their ulsters and Newmarket coats, to see how much they owe in warm and sensible modes of dress to English fashions. Then, too, English out door games, particularly lawn tennis, have become very fashionable here, and their good effect is to be seen in the improved health, the greater ease of movement, and the rounded figures of our girls.

PLUMPNESS OF OUR GIRLS.

It was only about a year ago when a foreign visitor to this country remarked that of the things that most impressed her was the plumpness of American girls. The remark caused a great deal of astonish for we had been so long accustomed to think of the American type of beauty as extremely delicate and spirituelle that we had not recognized the change that had been slowly but surely effected. Any one who now walks Broadway in the afternoon, and who is old enough to remember the appearance of its feminine frequenters of ten years ago, can scarcely fail to indorse the truth of the

foreigner's observation. I do not hesitate to say that there is one oteworthy and valuable respect in which I believe English girls are superior to American girls. That respect is their ability to conduct the affairs of their homes. This, of course, is not an inherited ability, but is the result of training and practice. I am not considering the daughters of the farmers, but those of mercantile and professional men. in England, the custom is to train the girls to relieve their mothers of many of the duties of housekeeping. Among families where there are several daughters, it is a common practice to have each in turn take charge of the house for a week or a month. I do not assert that such a plan is never followed here, but at the most it is done with comparative infrequency. The system of living in boarding houses has in many instances made it impossible to instruct our city bred girls in domestic duties, but happily the increased facilities for suburban travel have placed it within the power of many heads of families

TWO IMPORTANT REASONS. Very probably the daughters of wealthy parents are slow to see why they should un-dergo any of the work necessary to the learning of how all the departments of household onomy should be run. There are, however, two important reasons for acquiring such knowledge. One is the extreme vicissitudes of fortune, characteristic of business life in this country; and the other is the fact that if the mistress does not know when work is properly done, her servants, no matter how good at the start, will soon grow careless and forgetful. In no other country in the world is there so much trouble with "help" as here. Some of this is due to the ignorance of servants who have had no previous experience but possibly as much is due to the ignorance

in England, no matter how wealthy the parents, the custom of giving the daughters domestic training is usually observed. A recently published "Life of Queen Victoria" states that after the estate of Osborne had cottage was fitted up as a kitchen for the young princesses, with pantry, closets, dairy and larder, all as complete as possible, and here these juvenile royal highnesses, dressed a la cuisiniere, and with arms white with flour, learned to make cakes and tarts and all sorts of plain dishes, to cook the vegetables which they had themselves cultivated, to pre serve fruit and to prepare different sorts of pickles. In fact, they were trained to be good English housewives." The example set by the queen has permeated all the higher

The cooking schools recently started here are steps in the right direction. But cooking, though very important, is only a single branch of the domestic duties. The other can best be learnt at home. I am glad to hear that the beard of education in New York city is considering the advisability of giving instruction in sewing and cooking to nus in The Epoch.

Detectives in Dress Coats. Detective Heidelberger, of Inspector Eyrnes' force, was saying the other day that if Mrs. Hicks-Lord had notified the central office that she intended giving the reception which has had so wide an adver-tisement recently because of the reported loss of coats, wraps, etc., a couple of detectives would have been detailed to go there in even-ing dress and there would have been no trouble whatever. He says that the Vanderbiits and other wealthy people who entertain do not think of getting on without a detective any more than they think of getting on without the services of Delmonico or Finant. A detective is on the ground before the affair has really commenced, and remains there after all the guests have departed. able to spot people who have no legitimate right to be present, by reason of their uneasy manner and their numerous and suspicion

Detective Heidelberg was at the reception given by Cornelius Vanderbilt not long ago, and took entire charge of the outer clothing which the guests put off as they came int At the end of the evening Mr. Vanderbilt came to him and asked him whether or not everybody had gone, and Heidelberg said that there was yet one gentleman remaining. He had a hat, coat and cane still uncalled for. Mr. Vanderbilt isughed and said that that was so, and told him that the gentleman to whom these things belonged would remain all night, and the detective, proud of the even and correct way in which the mass of wraps and overcouts had come out, donned his own cost and went

Electrified the Congregation.

RIVER LIFE IN CHINA.

Novel and Interesting Sights Described by an American Tourist.

The strange river life of China is all about us; small fishing boats are everywhere plying their calling. They are constructed with a central chamber full of auger holes for the free admittance of water, in which the fish are conveyed alive to market, or imprisoned during the owner's pleasure. Big freight sampans float past, propelled by oars if going down stream, and by the combined ef-forts of towline and poles if against the current. The propelling poles are fitted with neatly carved "crutch trees" to fit the shoulder; the polers, sometimes numbering as many as a dozen, walk back and forth along side planks and encourage themselves with cries of "ha-i, ha-i, ha-i." A peculiar and indescribable inflection, would lead one, hearing and not seeing these boatmen, to fancy himself listening to a flight of brants in stormy weather. Yung Po, poling by himself, gives utterance to a prolonged cry of "Atta-atta-atta anooii" every time he

hustles along the side plank. The progress of up stream boats is pair fully slow, and a Chinaman is thoroughly Asiatic, in that he seems quite indifferent to the flight of time. My impatience to push forward no doubt makes their aggravating

slowness appear still slower.

Many huge rafts of pine logs are encoun tered floating down stream to the cities of the lower country; numbers of them are sometimes met, following close behind one another. Several buts are erected on each big raft, so that the sight not infrequently suggest a long, straggling village, floating with the tide. This suggestion is very much heightened by the score or more people engaged in poling, steering, al fresco cooking, etc., aboard each raft.

And anon there come along men, poling with surprising swiftness slender built craft, on which are perched several solemn and important looking cormorants. These are the celebrated cormorant fishers of the Chinese rivers. Their craft is simply three or four stems of the giant bamboo turned up at the forward end; on this the naked fisherman stands and propels himself by means of a slender pole

Officers board us in the evening to search the vessel for dutiable goods; but they find nothing. The privilege of levying customs on salt and opium is farmed out by the government, to people in various cities along the rivers. The tax on these articles from first to last of a long river voyage is very heavy, customs being levied at various points; it is scarcely necessary to add that under these arbitrary arrangements, the oily, conscienceless and tsin loving Celestial boatman has reduced the noble art of smuggling to a science. Yung Po smiles blandly at the officer as he searches carefully every nook and corner of the sampan, even rooting about with a stick in the moderate amount of bilge water collected between the ribs, and when he is through, dismisses him with an air of innocence and a wealth of politeness that is artfully calculated to to secure less rigorous search next time. -Thomas Stevens in Outing.

With Conscious Pride.

Minister (to little boy with a basket of flsm) -Little boy aren't you ashamed to go fishing on the Sabbath day?

Little Boy (lifting the cover of the basket with conscious pride)-Ashamed? Look at -Tid Bits

Appropriate Head. A new magazine is called Baby. Its head should be set in small caps.—Norristown

\* Never Stops. It's Lent all the year round with the pawnbroker.-Philadelphia Call.

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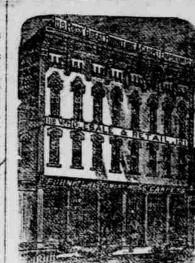
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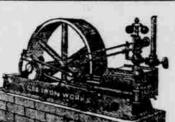
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